



**SUMMIT COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Hazardous Materials Planning and Community Right-To-Know*

## LEPC Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: August 21, 2025

Location: Summit Communications Center, 630 North Ave., Tallmadge

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Steve Groves – Chair	Valley Fire District
Tommy Smoot	Summit County Emergency Management
Tim Gemind - Secretary	Summit County Emergency Management
Melissa McFadden	Summit County DOSSS
Pam Williams	American Red Cross
Bruce Koellner - 2nd Vice	Copley Township
Kurt Kollar	OEPA
Jacob Maxim	Huntsman
Julia Harber-Vice Chair	NEO Regional Sewer District

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kandy Fatheree	Summit County Sheriff's Office
Sharen Breyer	Community
Macklin Flinn	Cleveland Clinic – Akron General
Alison Reichard	Huntsman
Kelsey Kurcsak	Davey Tree
Shawn Metcalf	Akron METRO RTA
Scott Pascu	Akron Fire Department
Sam Rubens	Summit County Public Health
Judy Bearer	Direction Home

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

Noah Porter	OEMA
Theo Williams	Univar
Joseph St. John	SCEMA
Rob Keener	Akron Fire Department
Stephen Tompkins	ODNR
Larry Brown	SCSO

### **Approval of minutes**

- The May 22, 2025, meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Pam Williams and a second by Julie Harber. The motion passed with unanimous support and no opposition.



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## **Correspondence**

- Two electronic votes - \$1,000 for lunch for Hazmat training, Match of \$6,275 for PUCO grant (\$12,550) for 2 Bad Day Trainings for Hazmat,
- Akron Fire Department SMB International Site Update and Forward Planning Presentation.
- State recommendation for approval of the LEPC full-scale exercise on July 16, 2025, with final vote by SERC at their upcoming meeting.
- Application for Deputy Chief Scott Pascu to replace District Chief Joseph Shumacher on the LEPC Committee
- SERC Grant Fiscal Report submitted to the State

## **Reports**

- Tim Gemind presented the Information Coordinator Report:
  - Since the last meeting, seven spill reports, thirteen 30-day follow-up reports, and ten right-to-know requests were received.
    - Tim will check on the diesel spill on July 10<sup>th</sup> for Kurt Kollar
- Tim Gemind presented the Special Teams Planner Report:
  - Hazmat training included:
    - July Deon Ops
    - July 16 LEPC Full Scale - State Graded exercise with Norfolk Southern Railroad. The exercise went very well with approximately 80 attendees. All objectives were met, and Michelle Sowers submitted her report to SERC. Thank you again to the LEPC committee for the food. Thank you letters were sent to Norfolk Southern and Macedonia FD.
    - August Transcaer
    - September Hazmat Foam
    - October Evidence collection with the Ohio National Guard, 52<sup>nd</sup> Civil Support Team



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- The Hazmat leadership group truck committee has met with four apparatus vendors to discuss replacing the original Hazmat vehicle. We have received drawings and quotes from two of the four. One quote for almost \$1.3 million and the other at \$1.4 million. Both were for an approximate build time of 24 months.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- EHS – no report
- Spill Reporting and Compliance: Tim Gemind emailed documents to everyone.
- Training, Education, and Exercise Subcommittee: This year's LEPC workshop will be on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, with six topics/speakers confirmed. Invites were emailed on Tuesday.
- Finance Subcommittee:
  - Tommy Smoot asked for a motion for a resolution that EMA can represent and do the work on behalf of the LEPC. Bruce Koellner made the motion with Pam Williams as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
  - Tommy asked for a motion for the reimbursement for the work completed by the special teams planner not to exceed \$45,024 to EMA. Bruce Koellner made a motion with Melissa McFadden as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
  - Tommy Smoot asked for a motion for the emergency notification system for 25%, not to exceed \$8,400. Pam Williams made the motion with Bruce Koellner as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
  - Tommy Smoot asked for a motion for \$5,000 for office supplies for the LEPC. Pam Williams made the motion with Melissa McFadden as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
  - Tim Gemind asked for a motion for \$10,000 to send four technicians to the HMIC Conference in November in Texas (registration, flight, hotel), \$2500 for the Northeast Ohio Hazmat Conference in Solon, and \$3000 for food and lodging for a speaker



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at the LEPC Conference in October. Pam Williams made the motion with Julia Harber as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

- Planning Committee: No report
- Incidents
  - Hazmat response to Barberton Fire for Titanium Oxychloride
  - Hazmat phone call assessment to Fairlawn fire
  - AFD Hazmat assigned to VP Visit, and the county covered the city

### **New Business**

Tim Gemind submitted the Hazmat cost reimbursement package to Quality Carriers for the Hazmat incident in Barberton. The total cost was \$31,604.80, with \$20,293.75 allocated to the Summit County Hazmat portion.

The LEPC Hazmat Plan annual submission is due by mid-October. I have emailed the plan to some committee members for their review. We added a bullet reference for drones under the assumptions section.

### **Old Business**

Tim Gemind reported that he contacted SMB International. They filed their Tier II with the State, but have not filed it with the County. After emailing and calling the company consultant, their Tier 2 was emailed on May 29<sup>th</sup>, and a late letter was sent.

Akron Fire reported that SMB still hasn't completed all the requirements to return to full operations.

### **SERC**

Tim reported that we are waiting to hear if the SERC approved our graded full-scale exercise.

### **Good of the Order**

None



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**Next Meeting**

- The next meeting is scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM at the SECC

**Adjournment**

Pam Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting with Julia Harber as the second.  
All in favor: None opposed.